

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

On November 18, 1997 the Board approved changes to the County's Surplus Property Program. One of the changes established the option to make County surplus property available to approved, non-profit, organizations. Currently, there are forty-three such organizations.

Each year, thousands of County PC's and other types of computer-related equipment such as printers, monitors and scanners become surplus property. Although some of this surplus is made available to approved organizations, departments often salvage the equipment. Given the out-of-date nature of the equipment, the proceeds from the salvage process are minimal.

Some of the surplus PC's and other computer-related equipment can be refurbished and provided to individuals and organizations that do not require state-of-the-art hardware and software.

M-O-R-EMOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

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Recently; the Department of Children and Family Services, working with both a non-profit organization that refurbishes donated PCs and community volunteers, ran a pilot program that provided refurbished PCs and training to emancipated foster youth living in County-sponsored transitional housing. Ten emancipated foster youth were given PCs and printers and were trained on how to setup the PCs and effectively use them at their homes. All the participants, especially the ten emancipated foster youth, responded very positively and with great enthusiasm. As a result of this pilot program, ten emancipated foster youth have full time access to a PC at home to complete homework assignments (some of the youth are in high school and college) and improve work skills. Clearly, the pilot program was a success.

In order to further support programs similar to the pilot program and in view of the public good that results from the refurbishment of PC's that are then provided at little or no cost to needy individuals I believe the County should not be salvaging surplus PC's and related equipment as a preference for disposal. Instead, the preference for disposal of surplus PC's and related equipment should be to post their availability on the Surplus Property Website site for claiming by our approved organizations. Also, I am aware of at least one approved organization that will refurbish systems and is authorized by the State Department of Toxic Substance Control to dispose of hazardous materials in an environmentally appropriate manner.

M-O-R-E

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I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Encourage departments to post their surplus PC's and related computer equipment on the County's Surplus Property Website for claiming by our approved organizations with the condition that the claiming organization demonstrate they can dispose of hazardous materials in an environmentally appropriate manner.

I ALSO MOVE that the Internal Services Department (ISD) be directed to revise the surplus property procedures to reflect the County's preference for first posting surplus PC's and related electronic equipment on the County's Surplus Property Website for claiming by our approved organizations.